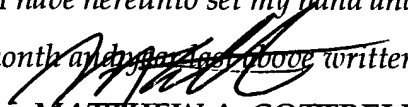




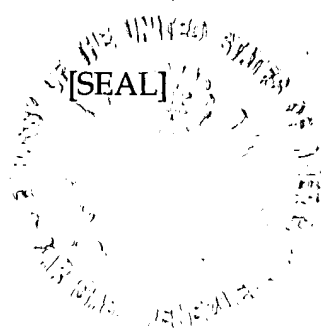
**CERTIFICATE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EXECUTION OF AN  
INSTRUMENT**

BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC )  
OF VENEZUELA )  
CITY OF CARACAS ) SS  
EMBASSY OF THE )  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA )

*I, MATTHEW A. COTTRELL, CONSUL of the United States of America at  
CARACAS, VENEZUELA duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify that on  
this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2003, before me personally appeared Jorge LUSTGARTEN  
LAUFER who presented a Venezuelan Identification Card as a type of identification,  
whose name (s) is (are) subscribed to and who executed the annexed instrument freely  
and voluntarily for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.*

*In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and  
Official seal the day, month and year last above written*  
  
MATTHEW A. COTTRELL

CONSUL of the United States of America





Docket: ITW-14147

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY  
FOR PATENT APPLICATION**

As one of the below-named inventors, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below under my name.

I believe that the other below-named inventors and I are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is disclosed and claimed in U.S. patent application Serial No. 10/702,229 filed on November 6, 2003 and entitled TOP-FILL RECLOSABLE BAG HAVING WICKET FLAP AND RELATED METHOD OF MANUFACTURE, the specification of which is attached hereto, and for which a patent is sought.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified patent application, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information which is material to patentability (as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a)) in connection with examination of this application.

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of U.S. patent application Serial No. 10/610,805 filed on July 1, 2003, and U.S. patent application Serial No. 10/367,450 filed on February 14, 2003, and insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose

material information (as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(a)) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the filing date of this application.

I hereby direct that all correspondence and telephone calls in connection with this application be addressed to: Dennis M. Flaherty, Esq., Ostrager Chong & Flaherty LLP, 825 Third Avenue, 30th Floor, New York NY 10022-7519.

I hereby appoint Mark W. Croll (Reg. No. 31,098), Donald J. Breh (Reg. No. 30,159), John H. Pilarski (Reg. No. 33,028), Paul F. Donovan (Reg. No. 39,962), Lisa M. Soltis (Reg. No. 40,623), and Benjamin J. Hauptman (Reg. No. 29,310), all from Illinois Tool Works Inc., 3600 West Lake Avenue, Glenview, Illinois 60025-5811, and Glenn F. Ostrager (Reg. No. 29,963), Dennis M. Flaherty (Reg. No. 31,159), and Joshua S. Broitman (Reg. No. 38,006), all from the firm Ostrager Chong & Flaherty LLP, 825 Third Avenue, 30th Floor, New York New York 10022-7519, jointly and severally, to be the attorneys of record, with full power of substitution, delegation and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the

Docket: ITW-14147

United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of first joint inventor: BASIL C. LINTON

Inventor's signature: Basil C. Linton 1/7/04  
DATE

Residence: Loganville, Georgia  
Citizenship: United States of America  
Post Office Address: 1400 Temple Johnson Road  
Loganville, GA 30052

Full name of second joint inventor: GREGORY H. CRUNKLETON

Inventor's signature: Greg H. Crunkleton 1/7/04  
DATE

Residence: Nicolson, Georgia  
Citizenship: United States of America  
Post Office Address: 1095 Staghorn Trail  
Nicolson, GA 30565

JENNIFER WOODALL  
NOTARY PUBLIC, DEKALB COUNTY  
GEORGIA  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES  
JUNE 26, 2007

Docket: ITW-14147

Full name of third joint inventor: JORGE LUSTGARTEN LAUFER

Inventor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE

Residence: Caracas, Venezuela

Citizenship: Venezuela

Post Office Address: Calle Cocorote, Qta. Nosotros  
San Roman, Caracas  
Ed. Miranda, Venezuela



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FOR PATENT APPLICATION**

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Inventor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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Post Office Address: 1400 Temple Johnson Road  
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Inventor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_


Residence: Nicolson, Georgia  
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Docket: ITW-14147

Full name of third joint inventor: JORGE LUSTGARTEN LAUFER

Inventor's signature:



12/12/03  
DATE

Residence:

Caracas, Venezuela

Citizenship:

Venezuela

Post Office Address:

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San Roman, Caracas  
Ed. Miranda, Venezuela